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# Hand Pump Mechanics Associations (HPMAs) for job opportunities and water services

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Supporting water sanitation  
and hygiene services for life

# Presentation outline

- Brief introduction/global context
- Brief background to HPMAs in Uganda
- Why HPMAs?
- HPMAs and jobs
- Challenges
- IRC support
- Recommendations

# Brief introduction/global context

- The United Nations World Water Development Report 2016 estimates that more than 40% of the world's total active workforce, are heavily water-dependent.
- Provision of water-related services like construction and managing water supply infrastructure presents job opportunities for many.
- In Uganda, many men and women depend on jobs like constructing and maintaining water supply facilities.

# Brief back ground to HPMAs

- Sustaining the functionality of rural water facilities remains a key challenge in Uganda.
- Investment in new infrastructure continues, but need to pay attention to operation and maintenance.
- Currently, national coverage is 65%, while functionality is 88%
- Ministry of Water and Environment adopted the formation of Hand Pump Mechanics Associations (HPMAs) in 2011
- The aim was to ensure that Hand Pump Mechanics (HPMs) were readily available to support communities with operation and maintenance of water supply facilities

# What are HPMAs?

- Hand Pump Mechanics within a district come together to form an association to enjoy the advantages of working as a group:
- Equally distributed throughout the sub counties
- Closer to their clients – the water users
- Greater bargaining power
- Improved conduct and standards
- Formation of HPMAs was to improve functionality, but for the members this is a livelihood

# HPMAs and jobs

**Formation of HPMAs was to improve functionality, but for the members this is a livelihood**

- Apart from their regular duties of repairing sources, HPMs also:
- Collecting data on functionality of point water sources
- Assessment and Rehabilitation of non-functional sources
- Extension of Gravity flow schemes
- Construction of sanitation facilities e.g latrine
- Construction of Ferro cement tanks
- Construction of rainwater harvesting tanks

# HPMAs and jobs

District	Jobs done
Kabaroole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extension of GFS worth UGX60 million (USD24,000).</li><li>• Extension of 1.3KM of a piped scheme in Kiguma Sub County.</li><li>• Extension of 3.8KM from Kakagusa to Saaka in Kichwamba Sub County,</li><li>• Rehabilitation of a GFS in Buhesi Sub County.</li><li>• Installation of a pump system in Mpanga.</li><li>• Training of Water User Committees around the tap stands.</li></ul>



# HPMAs and jobs

District	Jobs done
Lira	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collected baseline information for the M4W Initiative.</li><li>• Collected data on the Service Delivery Indicators</li><li>• Assessment of functionality of sources.</li><li>• Collected water supply data for Plan International and Welt Hunger</li><li>• Written proposals to all sub-county authorities requesting for tenders to manage sanitation in public places.</li><li>• Oromo and Agweng sub counties agreed to give a tender to manage sanitation in markets.</li></ul>



# Challenges

- HPMAs are not clear about how they should work as a private sector entity.
- The amount of work and money from routine maintenance and repair of water systems is often too low to sustain operations of the HPMA
- Some districts are still grappling with how to engage the HPMAs
- HPMAs have not yet acquired the technical expertise to manage contracts.
- Clients (water users) attitude towards paying for O&M
- The Price of spare parts is still high

# IRC and other actors' interventions

- Ministry of Water lobbied the Public Procurement and Disposal Authority to issue a waver allowing district tender boards to prioritise HPMAAs when awarding tenders.
- Building HPMA capacity, especially on how to do business.
- IRC developed a business model for the HPMAAs.
- Facilitated exchange learning visits between districts, particularly Arua, Lira and Kabarole

# HPMA Business Model

<p><i>Key Partners</i></p> <p><u>District Local Governments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulation of HPMA</li> <li>Contracting HPMA</li> </ul> <p><u>Umbrella Organizations for Water &amp; Sanitation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to revolving funds</li> <li>Link to spare part dealers</li> </ul> <p><u>Financing Institutions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HOFOKAM Microfinance</li> <li>Post Bank</li> </ul> <p><u>WASH Tech dev't Promoters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of appropriate WASH tech Sanitation solutions, ATC</li> </ul> <p><u>CSOs</u></p> <p>Capacity development IRC, SNV, Plan International, Devine Waters</p>	<p><i>Key Activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance of Water supply facilities</li> <li>Repair and rehabilitation</li> <li>Monitoring functionality of Water systems</li> <li>Emptying &amp; disposal of faecal sludge</li> <li>Construction of sanitation facilities</li> <li>Monitoring &amp; supervision of HPMS</li> </ul>	<p><i>Value Proposition</i></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guaranteeing reliability of water supply</li> <li>Increase sanitation service levels</li> <li>Improve household drinking water quality</li> </ul>	<p><i>Customer Relationships</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Personal relations with clients in rural areas, Local government, CSOs &amp; Peri urban clients</li> </ul>	<p><i>Customer Segments</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Households in rural areas</li> <li>Household in peri urban areas</li> <li>Water User Committees</li> <li>District Local Governments</li> <li>NGOs</li> </ul>
<p><i>Cost Structure</i></p> <p>Rental costs Wages &amp; Labour Transportation Equipment &amp; supplies Marketing and promotion</p>	<p><i>Revenue Streams</i></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local government contracts for Rehabilitation of water systems</li> <li>Water user committees/Boards – Repair &amp; Maintenance</li> <li>Sales of products &amp; services (sanitation, household water treatment)</li> <li>Training and consultancy</li> </ul>			

# Recommendations

In a country where youth unemployment is at 83%, activities related to water supply and sanitation services could guarantee jobs for many a youth.

- Through affirmative action, government should give HPMA's more responsibility to manage water supply facilities.
- Support the HPMA's to hone their business acumen to enable them comply with conventional business and professional standards
- HPMA's and artisans should join associations to benefit from collective bargaining